



HACKS & TRACKS

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 7 | SUMMER 2015

www.headleyheathridersassociation.co.uk



What a great summer we have had this year so far! Lovely sunshine and horses munching tasty grass. HHRA have had a busy season so far, with plenty of successful events. We are proud to now have on

sale our very own HHRA Polo shirts with our logo on, available for purchase at £15 each. These are high quality Fruit of the Loom brand. If you want to purchase one please let us know.

COMMITTEE PROFILE – SAM DAVIS

I am 36 years old, live in Carshalton, and keep my horse, Freya, at Hurstfields in Walton-on-the-Hill. I hold a BSc in Equine Business Management. I have worked on several yards years ago, but I now work long hours in London as a recruitment consultant and spend my time rushing about between work, Freya and my boyfriend Andy who lives in Bracknell!

I have owned Freya since 2005 and due to her being a bit of a problem lady in the early years I sought help from Intelligent Horsemanship (UK society for Monty Roberts). I have since attended various courses with Kelly Marks and her Associates and continue to do so to progress my learning/develop my skills. The IH way of thinking has revolutionised my equestrian life and Freya is now a good girl as a result!

Freya is my Princess and the perfect all rounder. We do a little of everything at low level – endurance pleasure rides/sponsored rides, showjumping, dressage and xc. We love hacking and I think I would profess to know all routes within a 3 hour hacking radius from Hurstfields, having spent much time with local ordnance survey maps - and some further afield as well. We are blessed with the variety and sheer amount of fabulous hacking we have in this area. I have made it to Ashstead Common, Norbury Park, Reigate Heath and Boxhill too! I do the newsletter (with Andy's much needed help), the facebook page and lots of the Marketing for HHRA.



Sam and Freya

Liphook Tour

Tuesday 2nd June. We had 36 attendees for our exclusive evening tour of Liphook Equine Hospital. Jane Boswell, one of the Partners, grew up in Headley and is very supportive of HHRA. Jane gave us a talk on the hospital and the services they offer, followed by a guided tour of the facilities. What a treat! They put on a lovely food and drink spread too.

We saw the different areas of the hospital including the x-ray

room, knock down box, MRI area, isolation unit, intensive care unit and operating theatre. It was a really fascinating evening. Just as we were ready to leave an emergency colic case was rushed in for an operation and Jane very kindly allowed those of us who wanted to stay to watch (from behind a glass screen). Absolutely fascinating and likely a once in a lifetime opportunity. The operation would have taken hours and I know some of us outstayed our welcome a little as we were so desperate to keep watching, but the wonderful staff who had already given up their evening for us needed

to get home to bed, so reluctantly we had to go home and leave the surgeon and team to do their job. Many thanks to the Liphook team for having us.



HHRA DOG SHOW

Saturday 11th July

write up by Janet Figg

kindly sponsored by Bowles & Co

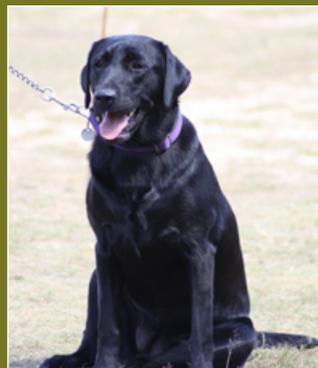
A lovely bright sunny day provided a perfect afternoon for the Fun Dog Show on Saturday, 11 July. Although some classes were better attended than others, a good time seemed to be had by all. There were a surprising number of rescue dogs in attendance and what lovely dogs they all were. I didn't see a badly behaved dog all afternoon. They were all very sociable and all VERY cute!

The judges had a tough time choosing their winners, particularly in the most appealing eyes which was a big class. The fancy dress proved rather difficult too, where the choice of winner was between the Queen and a dragon. The judge found it impossible to choose a winner so opted for joint 1st place – very well done to Jess and Willow.

HHRA not only provided rosettes to all entries but all the dogs got a treat. Very well done to all the dogs who seemed to have as much fun as their owners.

A late addition of an agility course for the dogs to try proved very popular and although some of the dogs in all honesty, were pretty bad, it was great fun to watch and if you haven't already seen it, look at the photos page of the HHRA website where you can watch a short video. The photos are also there; please take a look if you haven't already.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to say a BIG thank you to the National Trust for allowing HHRA use of their land – it was a fab venue! And on behalf of all the entrants and supporters, a BIG thank you to HHRA for organising and in particular Janice and Lucy for all their hard work in organising the event.



WINNERS

Best Veteran: Dave & Jess

Cutest Puppy: Emma & Zeus

Best Bad Hair Day: Andrea & Ozzie

Most Appealing Eyes: Jill & Daisy, Monica & Gregory, Sophie & Moll – *(all joint winners)*

Handsome Dog: Sally & Hugo

Prettiest Bitch: Simon & Winnie

Fancy Dress: Dave & Jess (The Queen) and Ana & Willow (The Dragon) – *(joint winners)*

Musical Bottoms: Fiona & Isla

Best Biscuit Catcher: Jill & Daisy

FUN RIDE

Saturday 13th June

write up by Janet Figg

A cloudy but dry day gave the horses and riders on the fun ride good conditions to enjoy their ride. Although it would have been nice to have the sun out, it probably would have meant the horses being plagued by horse flies like last year. As a photographer, the standing around did leave me feeling a little chilly but it was lovely to see everyone's smiley faces on the way out as well as on the way home (but I suspect there were some sore bottoms by the end).

The route for the ride went round Headley Heath and out onto Boxhill Road. There was a little bit of road work to do to get onto Boxhill and enjoy the views there before making the journey home. The National Trust were very supportive and kindly allowed us use of extra tracks. How often do you get to go out for a hack and get a lovely rosette at the end of it!

I was able to get photos of the horses and riders going out and coming home and everyone said how much they had enjoyed it. I had a few quiet moments and was able to take a few odd shots that I feel show how lucky we are to have Headley Heath to ride

on. If you haven't already, please go to the website and take a look.

There were 46 entries for the ride and Becky had organised everything brilliantly, but very sadly, as I'm sure most if not all of you know, one of her horses was taken ill that morning. Because she had everything organised and ready to go, the other committee members were able to literally just go and collect the required gear from Becky to step in for her.

Our thoughts are with you Becky, on the very sad loss of beautiful Cohete.

I would like to say a BIG thank you to HHRA for organising and in particular to Becky for the HUGE amount of work that she put into this event.



NEWS

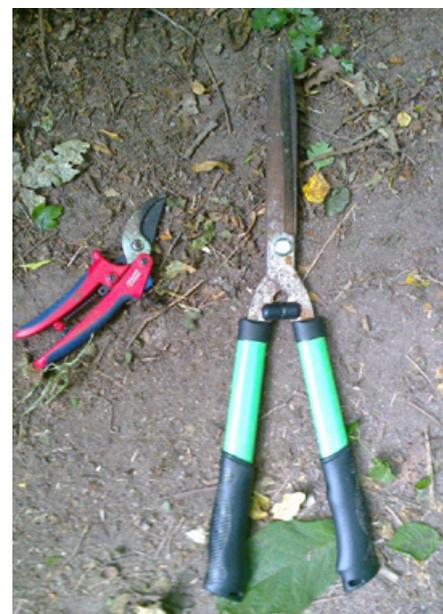
Unfortunately we have had two resignations from the HHRA committee over the last few months, Lauren Burtenshaw and Mike Von Gerard. We would like to thank them both for their support and hard work for HHRA.

HHRA have been chasing Surrey CC for months re proposing repairs to the boggy Addlestead Farm track. We agreed to donate £500 towards it in an attempt to hurry things along/assist in the Council getting budget allocated. We are pleased to tell you that they have just responded to confirm the work will go ahead to surface the badly poached bit and improved the drainage. They have said they hope for it to be done in August.

Becky Longhust has been out with her shears and secateurs trimming and clearing back foliage on some of the tracks. Thank you Becky!

If you know of any overgrown paths that need attention please do inform us. We know that one of our members sustained facial injuries as a result of the overgrown path running from the Motorway to the RAF land and HHRA are looking at paying and organising for this path to be cut back.

We have been advised by the National Trust that the cows will be returning to Headley Heath in August and will stay until the end of December.



HHRA SADDLECOMBE DRESSAGE



We are pleased to report the last of the Spring series again proved very popular and was completely full. Thanks as always to all who run and help at these events and for Mr. Colonna for allowing us the use of Saddlecombe Stud.

24th May Dressage Results:

Intro: Toldi & Diane Cripps
Prelim: Rainier & Emma Stewart
Novice: Rainier & Emma Stewart
Pick Your Own: Poppy & Lee-Anne Bailey

Overall Spring Championship Series Results:

We hope the winners like their prizes and trophies!

Winners:

Intro: Toldi & Diane Cripps
Prelim: Rainier & Emma Stewart
Novice: Echo & Liz Gill
Pick Your Own: Almost an Angel & Gabriella Gervaise-Brazier

SJ Clinic at Headley Park Farm Saturday 27th June

Thank you so much to Maggie and Jim Parker for allowing HHRA to use their premises for this event and to Leslie Whipps for his super instruction.

TAGGING

Please don't forget to tag your horses. We provide you an HHRA member disc on which you can write your horses details/your contact numbers should you become separated. Please let us know if you have not

been given a members disc and would like one. I wrote on mine with a CD pen and have coated it in clear nail varnish which seems to be a better idea than my first plan of just black marker pen which wore off.

Things I hate about horses *by Amanda Ronan*

I hate the way you poop all day.
I hate the price of all that hay.
I hate the way you roll in the mud, after I've spent hours removing that crud.
I hate how sometimes you stomp and snort, when there's nothing to fear of any sort.
I hate the way you perfectly strike my eye when you flick your tail.
I hate that I have to clean all the parts that let me know you are male.
I hate that the judge didn't look your way.
Whatever, you're handsome... that's all I'll say.
I hate that sometimes people don't understand.
A horse is not just a horse, you're a friend and I'm your biggest fan.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gymkhana Sunday 30th August – open to all adults/children including Fancy Dress Section with 1st place Hamper prize kindly donated by Randstad.

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SPONSORSHIP

HHRA continue to thanks Bowles and Co. Solicitors for their ongoing sponsorship support

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HORSIN' AROUND FOR A SMILE

Q: Did you hear about the horse with the negative altitude?

A: She always said Neigh!!!

Summer Bar-B-Q

Saturday 4th July

We changed the venue this year to the garden at Headley Village Hall, which proved a super idea as this meant that if it rained (thankfully it didn't) we would have inside cover as back up and we had use of the kitchen area for preparing the food as we decided to self cater it ourselves.

The food was fabulous. Tracey Mitchell is now being put forward for Master Chef after her veggie specialist treats and Lucy's banoffee pie was to die for. What a feast!! Thanks so much to all those who shopped for and prepared food and slaved away with the cooking. Sisters were doing it for themselves here with no man at the Bar-B-Q helm and boy did they rock!!

Thank you to all those who came. Sorry the weather turned a bit chilly for us, but at least it stayed dry. Great company and great food made a great night.